

strong, well-managed county to being one of the very best local governments in the Nation. I applaud Ms. Simon's commitment to the people of Washoe County and all of Northern Nevada. She serves as a shining example for all Nevadans, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her retirement.●

REMEMBERING GEORGE AMES

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor CPL George Ames, a hero from the Korean War.

George was born in Pennsylvania and at age 16, he talked his mother into signing a form so he could enlist in the Army Cavalry. In 1951, George was deployed to Korea where he fought for 2 years. He was wounded three times and eventually was flown to a military hospital in Japan. George did not talk much about his time in Korea but did show his daughter a flag he had made when he was in the hospital in Japan. The flag had a map on it which showed all of the places in Korea where he had fought.

When he returned home, George spent 16 years as a military police officer in El Paso, TX.

In 1971, he moved to Montana and served as the sheriff of Sweet Grass County in Big Timber for 20 years.

George was one of the first sheriffs in Montana to bring the Drug Abuse Resistance Education—DARE—program to his county schools. He also was one of the first sheriffs to bring the FBI's Child Find program to help schools put kids' fingerprints and pictures into a booklet for parents.

George passed away in 2011, but it was my honor to present the honors he earned to his widow Clara and his granddaughter Meggin. On behalf of a grateful nation, I presented CPL George Ames' Army of Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp, National Defense Service Medal, and Korean Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars.

I also had the honor of presenting George's widow Clara and his granddaughter Meggin the Combat Infantryman Badge 1st Award and the United National Service Medal.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service. They are presented on behalf of a nation that will never forget George Ames' heroism.●

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN LEONARD

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor TSgt Norman Leonard, a hero from World War II and the Korean War.

Norman was born in 1925 in North Jackson, OH.

In 1943, Norman enlisted in the Marine Corps. He served on the aircraft carrier USS Bunker Hill. During his 2 years in the South China Sea, Norman was involved in 11 major battles.

Two days after he left the Bunker Hill, the carrier was hit by two kamikazes and over 400 servicemen were killed.

Private First Class Leonard returned to the United States and joined the Air Force. He deployed to Germany where he served with the Allied Forces from 1948 until 1951. From Germany, Norman was Deployed to Taegu, Korea, from 1953 to 1954. In Korea, Staff Sergeant Leonard worked on the F86 fighter bombers.

Twenty years after he enlisted in the Air Force, Norman retired.

He went to Bible school and worked as a pastor in Nebraska, Colorado, and Minnesota.

Norman and his wife moved to Billings 15 years ago to be close to their son and grandchildren.

Earlier this month, it was my honor to present Norman his Korean War Service Medal and his Official Citation from the Republic of South Korea on the 50th Anniversary of the War.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service. They are presented on behalf of a nation that will never forget Norman Leonard's heroism.●

REMEMBERING MICHAEL MERRILL

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor PO1 Michael Merrill, a sailor who fought in Vietnam.

Michael grew up in Outlook, MT, and went to Butte in 1961 to enlist in the U.S. Navy. He was sent to Millington, TN, for training at the Naval Support Activity Mid-South base. In Tennessee, he met his future bride, Barbara, whom he married in 1964. Barbara said she always wanted to be in the service, and for her, helping take care of Michael was her way of contributing to our country.

Michael traveled back and forth between San Diego and Millington until 1969 when he received orders to deploy to the aircraft carrier USS Shangri-La as a jet mechanic. The Shangri-La was posted in the South China Sea during the Vietnam War.

For his service during the war, Michael earned the Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars.

After Vietnam, Michael and Barbara headed back to Miramar Naval Air Station before a tour on the USS Midway in Japan. Michael's last posting was to Whidbey Island in Washington where he worked with a helicopter squadron.

In 1981, after 20 years in the Navy, Michael retired and moved home. In Billings, he worked various jobs, including working at a tire supply company.

Michael passed away in 2009, but it was my honor to present the honors he earned to his widow Barbara. On behalf of a grateful nation, I presented PO1 Michael Merrill's Navy Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars.

I also had the honor of presenting to Michael's widow Barbara, the Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon, the Navy "E" Ribbon, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal with the 1960 device.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism. Sacrifice. And dedication to service.

They are presented on behalf of a nation that will never forget Michael Merrill's heroism.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:09 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 807. An act to require that the Government prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 807. An act to require that the Government prioritize all obligations on the debt held by the public in the event that the debt limit is reached; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1441. A communication from the President of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2012 Annual Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Assessments from the Secretaries of Defense and Energy, the three national security laboratory directors, and the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command (DCN OSS No. 2013-0648); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1442. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Keith M. Huber, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1443. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General John W. Morgan III, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1444. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1445. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Report to Congress on Fiscal Year 2014 Staff Years of Technical Effort and Estimated Funding for Department of Defense Federally Funded Research and Development Centers"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1446. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Annual Report to Congress on the Activities of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation for 2012"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1447. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wall Thinning Due to Erosion Mechanisms" (LR-1SG-2012-01) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 2, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1448. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Content Specification and Shielding Evaluations for Type B Transportation Packages" (RIS 2013-04) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1449. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories" received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1450. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Use Rules on Certain Chemical Substances" (FRL No. 9834-8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1451. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Alaska; Mendenhall Valley Nonattainment Area PM10 Limited Maintenance Plan and Redesignation Request" (FRL No. 9794-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1452. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina; Control Techniques Guidelines and Reasonably Available Control Technology" (FRL No. 9810-8) received in the Office of the President

of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1453. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Approval of Section 110(a) (1) Maintenance Plan for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone Standard for the Parish of Pointe Coupee" (FRL No. 9809-4) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1454. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; West Virginia; Prevention of Significant Deterioration" (FRL No. 9810-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 7, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1455. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from October 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 13, 2013; ordered to lie on the table.

EC-1456. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, an addendum to a certification, transmittal number: DDTC 13-058, of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country regarding any possible effects such a sale might have relating to Israel's Qualitative Military Edge over military threats to Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1457. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notice of an addendum to a certification of the proposed sale or export of defense articles and/or defense services to a Middle East country (OSS-2013-0652); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1458. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 2013-0065-2013-0073); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1459. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payment for Home Health Services and Hospice Care to Non-VA Providers" (RIN2900-AN98) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 6, 2013; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-1460. A communication from the Director of the Regulation Policy and Management Office of the General Counsel, Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas" (RIN2900-A001) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 26, 2013; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 267. A bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

H.R. 678. A bill to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 306. A bill to authorize all Bureau of Reclamation conduit facilities for hydropower development under Federal Reclamation law, and for other purposes.

S. 545. A bill to improve hydropower, and for other purposes.

By Mr. WYDEN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 761. A bill to promote energy savings in residential and commercial buildings and industry, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 930. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in cases of overpayments of educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, to deduct amounts for repayment from the last months of educational assistance entitlement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. TESTER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 931. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to raise awareness of, and to educate breast cancer patients anticipating surgery, especially patients who are members of racial and ethnic minority groups, regarding the availability and coverage of breast reconstruction, prostheses, and other options; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 932. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for advance appropriations for certain discretionary accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 933. A bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2018; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 934. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 regarding reasonable break time for nursing mothers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 935. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from requesting additional medical examinations of veterans who have